

Chronology*

The State of South Dakota is a part of that vast domain which was acquired by the United States through the celebrated Louisiana Purchase in 1803. President Thomas Jefferson purchased the territory, which includes the present states of Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa, Minnesota, North and South Dakota, Montana, and Idaho, from France for fifteen million dollars and the assumption of certain claims held by citizens of the United States against France.

Although nine states eventually were organized out of the Louisiana Purchase, during their existence as territories the boundaries of these divisions were subject to frequent and marked changes, and names appeared and disappeared.

South Dakota was originally part of what was called the Louisiana Territory. In 1812, that part of South Dakota lying west of the Missouri River became known as the "Mandan Territory," and the area lying east of the Missouri River became incorporated into the Missouri Territory. The eastern half of South Dakota was included in the Michigan Territory in 1834, and two years later, part of the Wisconsin Territory. In 1849, after the organization of Wisconsin as a state, the area east of the Missouri River was included in the Minnesota Territory. The portion of South Dakota west of the Missouri River was included in the Nebraska Territory in 1854. However, the admission of Minnesota as a state in 1858, left all the country west of its boundaries along the Big Sioux River to the Missouri River without any organization, legal name or existence.

This part was, by common consent, designated by the name of Dakota. Dakota is an Indian name which means "confederated" or "leagued together" and was originally derived from the great associated tribe of Indians, known in their own language as Dakotas.

In 1861, President James Buchanan signed the Organic Act (a copy of the document is found in this Blue Book) creating the Dakota Territory, which included the present states of North and South Dakota, Montana, Wyoming, and a small part of Nebraska. However, by 1868, Dakota Territory consisted of only what are North and South Dakota today. In 1889, the "Omnibus Bill" or the Enabling Act (a copy of the document is found in this Blue Book) was adopted which provided for the dividing of Dakota Territory into the states of North and South Dakota, and enabled the two Dakotas, Montana, and Washington to formulate constitutions.

* The introductory material to the chronology was substantially derived from the "Introductory," **Revised Code of South Dakota**, 1903, and the "Dakota Historical Sketch," **South Dakota Manual**, 1905.

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1683. Le Sueur may have visited Sioux Falls to buy furs to be shipped by flatboat to the mouth of the Mississippi.
1700. Le Sueur's traders from Fort L'Huillier (Mankato, Minnesota) traded on Big Sioux at Flandreau and Sioux Falls.
1743. The Chevalier de la Verendrye plant a leaden plate (now at the State Cultural Heritage Center in Pierre) on a hill near Fort Pierre, claiming this area for the King of France. March 30, 1743, the first white man clearly to have been in South Dakota.
1745. De Lusigan visited Big Stone Lake to call in unlicensed traders.
1750. Teton Sioux at about this date, having driven Omaha from Big Sioux and James River valleys, reached Missouri River and engaged Ree in forty years' war.
1775. Oglala Teton discover Black Hills and soon afterward drive Kiowa from that region.
1780. Yankton and Yanktonais Sioux, about this date, having been driven from western Iowa by Oto, came up and settled in James River Valley.
1785. Pierre Dorian, later guide to Lewis and Clark, married a Yankton woman and settled in trade at mouth of James River.
1792. Joseph Garreau settles with the Ree Indians at Little Bend of the Missouri.
1794. Jean Baptiste Trudeau spends year in South Dakota and builds first house in Charles Mix County, November 1794, on Black Timber Creek, just down river a mile or two from Great Fort Randall Dam. Sioux finally conquer Ree and drive them from their strong position at Little Bend. The Ree retreat up river and settle with relatives at mouth of Grand River.
1796. Registre Loisel builds post on Cedar Island, between Pierre and Big Bend.
1802. Loisel, French trader, built a fur trading post near mouth of Chapelle Creek on an island, 1802. Perrin de Lac, French explorer, set a four-sided cedar post probably on what is now known as the Bijou Hills.
1804. Lewis and Clark make first camp site in Union County, the first military expedition to enter South Dakota. (Captain Clark records much "elk sign" at a place they call Elk Point.) The party elects Patrick Gass to replace Sgt. Floyd, who died two days before, the first election west of the Mississippi. The explorers visit Spirit Mound, which area tribes say is inhabited by "devils." William Clark wrote: *"From the top of this mound, we beheld a most beautiful landscape. Numerous herds of buffalo were seen feeding in various directions. The plain to north, northwest, and northeast extends without interruption as far as can be seen."* The expedition councils with Yankton Sioux at Calumet Bluff. The expedition presents gifts of tobacco, corn and flags. The Yankton prepare a feast. Mr.

Dorian, the interpreter, stays behind to negotiate a peace with the Yankton's neighbors and arrange for the chiefs to visit Washington. The expedition stops near present-day Chamberlain. Lewis spends the next day hunting and describes immense herds of buffalo, deer, elk and antelope in every direction. The party arrives at the mouth of a small river they call Teton (now Bad River). A council with Teton Sioux turns tense; Clark draws his sword; the Tetons string their bows. Chief Black Buffalo diffuses the situation. Without this action, the expedition and American history could have changed dramatically.

- 1805. Pierre Dorian conducts party of Sioux chiefs to St. Louis.
- 1806. Lewis and Clark return from Pacific, passing through South Dakota again on their return to St. Louis, in late August. The trip downstream goes much more quickly than the trip upstream.
- 1807. Manuel Lisa undertakes trade with Indians at head of Missouri. Sergeant Nathaniel Pryor attempts to conduct Big White, a Mandan chief, who visited Washington with Lewis and Clark, to his home and is attacked and driven back by Rees, assisted by Miniconjou Teton Sioux under Black Buffalo. Four killed, nine wounded.
- 1808. St. Louis Missouri Fur Company organized for trade on upper Missouri. Established post in Loisel house on Cedar Island.
- 1809. Manuel Lisa, for St. Louis Missouri Fur Company, safely conducts Big White to his home in North Dakota. Finds Rees friendly.
- 1810. Loisel Post burned with large stock of furs.
- 1811. Astorian party go up Missouri to Grand River, where they buy horses of Rees and go thence up Grand River toward Pacific. First recorded exploration of northern Black Hills region. Manuel Lisa finds Sioux excited over "Prophet craze" and believes is due to hostile English influence. Reports condition to General Clark, Indian agent.
- 1812. General Clark sends Manuel Lisa to northern part of South Dakota, where he builds Fort Manuel, to control Indians of the Missouri.
Red Thunder, Flathead Yanktonais chief from Elm River, Brown County, with son, Waneta, and 22 Sissetons, enlist to serve English in war against Americans.
- 1813. March 5. Yankton join Arikara and Gros Ventre in siege of Fort Manuel. Great battle in which Manuel loses 15 men. Fort destroyed. Real engagement of War of 1812. Lisa retires to Big Bend, where he establishes fort and keeps Tetons friendly to Americans.
- 1815. Teton Sioux sign treaty of friendship at portage des Sioux. Chief Black Buffalo dies there July 14. Given military funeral.
- 1816. Trueau House burns.

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1817. Fur trade revives. Joseph La Framboise builds Fort Teton at site of Fort Pierre. First continuous settlement.
1818. Hazen Mooers set up fur trading post at Great Bend of Big Sioux (Flandreau.) Fort Tecumseh built at site of Fort Pierre, by Columbia Fur Company. Fort Recovery built upon American Island at Chamberlain, by Missouri Fur Company. (It is possible this post was built 10 years earlier to compensate loss of Loisel Post, and was headquarters of Manuel Lisa during War of 1812-1815.)
1823. General Ashley, lieutenant governor of Missouri, en route to Yellowstone, with cargo of goods and 100 men, attacked by Rees at Grand River and 13 men killed and 10 severely wounded. Colonel Henry Leavenworth, with 220 men, marches from Fort Atkinson, near Omaha, to attack Rees. At Yankton, July 3, Sergeant Samuel Stackpole and six men drowned by overturning boat. Leavenworth is joined by Joshua Pilcher, manager of Missouri Fur Company, with 40 volunteers at Fort Recovery. General Ashley and 80 men join party at Cheyenne River. Seven hundred and fifty Sioux Indians volunteer for the campaign. August 9, Ree towns reached and besieged. Rees ask for terms. First general military movement in Dakota. General Smith, noted frontiersman, made first prayer on June 2, 1823, before setting out as a courier, this near Arikara Village north of Grand River. Hugh Glass, badly wounded by a bear present site of Shade Hill dam on Grand River and deserted by his companions, made historic cross country trek to Fort Kiowa more than 150 miles away on River. Jedediah Smith, probably first white man to enter the Black Hills, probably via Buffalo Gap, in 1823 en route from Fort Kiowa west to Upper Missouri.
1825. General Henry Atkinson and Dr. Benjamin O'Fallon sent up Missouri with an escort of 476 men to make treaties for trade and intercourse with Indian tribes. Very successful. First Fourth of July celebration in Dakota, at Fort Pierre. Father of Inkpadata, a Wakpekuta chief, kills his brother Tasagi and is driven from his tribe. Settles on Vermillion River in South Dakota.
1828. American Fur Company absorbs Columbia Fur Company and becomes dominant in Dakota trade.
1830. Fort Tecumseh, later Fort Pierre, established as fur trade center in 1830.
1831. Pierre Chouteau Jr. navigates first steamboat, the "Yellowstone," on upper Missouri, reaching Fort Tecumseh. Revolutionizes fur trade methods. Elm River trading post on Elm River in Brown County operated by Captain Dickson, former English Officer, 1831.
1832. Fort Pierre built to succeed Fort Tecumseh. George Catlin, famous painter of Indian pictures, visits Fort Pierre and paints many likenesses. Frederick Le Boue, a trader, kills Francious Quenel, an employee, at mouth of Cherry Creek, on Cheyenne River. Le Boue arrested by order of Williams Laidlaw, bourgeois of Fort Pierre, and sent to St. Louis in chains.

1837. Great smallpox epidemic on Missouri River. All tribes suffer severely. Mandans practically destroyed.
1838. Dr. Joseph N. Nicollet, accompanied by John C. Fremont, visits the coteau region of eastern South Dakota, mapping and naming the lakes.
1839. Nicollet and Fremont again visit South Dakota, coming up the river to Fort Pierre, thence passing over to James River, and finally to the Minnesota. Father Pierre John DeSmet visits the renegade band of Wakpekuta Sioux under Wamdesapa, to try to effect a peace between them and Potawatomic of central Iowa.
1840. Fort Pierre visited by Fathers C. Hoecken and P. J. DeSmet and the Rev. Stephen Return Riggs. First formal sermon preached in South Dakota by Stephen Return Riggs in 1840 at Fort Pierre.
1843. Audubon, the naturalist, visited this section on a professional trip and observed and noted most of the birds and animals. Father Alexandria Ravoux visits Fort Pierre and baptizes many Indians.
1845. Father Ravoux visits Fort Vermillion.
1847. Mrs. Joseph LaBarge comes to Fort Pierre with her husband, Captain LaBarge on the Steamboat "Martha." First white woman to visit South Dakota. The "Martha" attacked by Yankton Indians at Crow Creek.
1849. Inkpadata, son of the renegade Wamdesapa, massacres his cousin Wamunidiyapapi and 17 other Wakpekuta.
1851. Father DeSmet visits the Teton Sioux. Sante Sioux relinquishes title to all lands east of Big Sioux River by treaty of Traverse des Sioux.
1855. Government buys Fort Pierre. General W. S. Harney, after battle of Ash Hollow, in Nebraska, brings army of 1200 men to Pierre. Lt. G.K. Warren, later famous in Civil War, examines and makes topographical survey of much of South Dakota. General Harney takes over Fort Pierre Chateau for the military 1855 and held great council with Sioux here in 1856. Oldest existent structure made by white man erected in Peoria Bottom by General Harney's soldiers. Still standing near Oahe Mission.
1856. First settlement other than trade or military center established at Medary, 1856. First wagon bridge built in state over James River near present Redfield by Colonel Abercrombie in 1856. Fort Lookout 1856-1857, and Fort Randall 1856-1892 established.
1857. Settlement begun at Sioux Falls, Flandreau, and Medary. "The Nobles Road" built across the state from Lake Benton to Crow Creek. Fort Randall completed and occupied. Inkpadata, the renegade, massacres 42 settlers at Spirit Lake, Iowa, and retreats into South Dakota with four white women captives.

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1858. Yankton Indians make treaty relinquishing title to lands between Big Sioux and Missouri. Mrs. Goodwin, first white woman settler, arrives at Sioux Falls. Settlement at Medary destroyed by Smutty Bear, Yankton Sioux. Settlers at Sioux Falls build and fortify Fort Sod. Provisional government organized. Legislature elected and convened. Alpheus G. Fuller sent as delegate to congress. Henry Masters, governor.
1859. Yankton treaty ratified. July 10, Indians surrender lands. Yankton, Vermillion and Bon Home founded. "Dakota Democrat" newspaper established by Samuel J. Albright, July 2. Gov. Masters dies. New legislature elected at Sioux Falls. Jefferson P. Kidder elected delegate to congress. Wilmot W. Brookings, provisional governor.
1860. First church society organized at Vermillion by Presbyterians. First school opened at Vermillion. Nobles Trail ending at Missouri River, near Bijou Hills, later site of Brule City, established from Fr. Ridgely, Minnesota, to river. First schoolhouse, other than Fort Randall, established in South Dakota at Bon Homme in 1860.
1861. Dakota Territory created by Congress March 2. Dr. William Jayne appointed governor. Establishes temporary capital at Yankton. Calls election for legislature and delegate to congress. John B.S. Todd elected delegate.
1862. First territorial legislature, "The Pony Congress," meets March 17. Company A, Dakota Cavalry, at Yankton. Great Indian outbreak in Minnesota, August 18. The Amidons massacred at Sioux Falls. Settlers flee in wild panic. Stockade at Yankton. All men called to arms.
1863. Gov. Jayne goes to congress. Newton Edmunds appointed governor. Company B Dakota Cavalry organized at Elk Point. First homestead taken in United States under federal laws filed on by Mahlon Gore at Vermillion land office on January 1863. Fort Sully (the first) established four miles east of Pierre by General Sully. Dakotans first called "Coyotes" by the 6th Iowa Cavalry at Fort Thompson in 1863.
1864. Fort Wadsworth established at edge of Coteau des Prairies.
1865. War of Outbreak ended by treaty at Fort Pierre. Montana road ordered built.
1866. Red Cloud war begins. Andrew J. Faulk succeeds Newton Edmunds as governor. Great affliction of grasshoppers. Crops eaten. Fort Sully (new) established.
1868. Red Cloud war ends. Great Sioux Reservation created by treaty.
1869. Faulk succeeded by John A. Burbank as governor. "Wild and woolly period." Great factional Moody-Brookings fight begins.
1870. Fort Bennett (Cheyenne Agency) established.

1872. On October 1, 1872, the first locomotive crossed the Sioux River on the Dakota Southern, the first railway into the territory - Dakota Southern from Sioux City to Yankton.
1873. Northwestern railway built to Lake Kampeska. Gen Edwin S. McCook, secretary of Dakota Territory, shot and killed by Peter P. Wintermute, result of factional political fight.
1874. Burbank succeeded by John L. Pennington as governor. Second invasion of grasshoppers. Custer expedition into "Forbidden Land," the Black Hills, and gold discovered near Custer City on French Creek. The Theon Stone indicates that as early as 1834 white men had discovered gold but all perished without taking the news to the outside world.
1875. Black Hills treaty commission fails. Rush of miners to Custer.
1876. Gold discovered in Deadwood Gulch. Stampede from Custer. Miners establish law and order. Black Hills war. Battles of Rosebud and Little Big Horn. Custer's command destroyed. Battle of Slim Buttes. Black Hills relinquished by Indians. All agency Sioux dismounted and disarmed.
1877. Great Dakota Boom begins. William A. Howard succeeds Pennington as governor.
1879. Great boom waxes strong. Railroad building begins.
1880. Northwestern railway builds to Pierre; the Milwaukee reaches Chamberlain. Great October blizzard. Gov. Howard dies and is succeeded by Nehemiah G. Ordway.
1881. Terrific floods on Big Sioux and Missouri in spring. Floods and ice lashed steamboat fleet tied up at Yankton, destroying all but three or four. Damaged boats never repaired, or extensive navigation resumed, although boats plied the river into the 1890s. Spotted Tail, noted Brule Sioux Chief, killed by jealous warrior. Yankton College established by Jospeh Ward.
1882. State university established.
1883. Capital removed from Yankton to Bismarck. Division and admission movement earnestly prosecuted to save school lands. First Sioux Falls constitutional convention. Presbyterial University opened at Pierre. Removed to Huron as Huron College, 1898. Sioux Falls College founded. Agricultural College founded at Brookings. Madison Normal School founded.
1884. Ordway succeeded by Gilbert A. Pierce as governor. Redfield College founded. All Saints School for Young Ladies founded at Sioux Falls.
1885. Second Sioux Falls constitutional convention. State officers and United States senators and representatives elected. Huron temporary capital. Spearfish Normal organized. Dakota Wesleyan University established at Mitchell.

- 1886. First railroad into Black Hills in.
- 1887. Pierce succeeded by Louis K. Church as governor. School of Mines founded at Rapid City.
- 1889. Enabling Act of Congress (a copy of the document is found in this Blue Book) provides for division and admission of South and North Dakota. Arthur C. Mellette succeeds Church as governor. Third Sioux Falls constitutional convention. Division and admission at last, November 2. Lutheran Normal School Founded at Sioux Falls. Augustana College founded at Canton.
- 1890. Opening of portion of Great Sioux Reservation between White and Cheyenne rivers. Messiah war. Sitting Bull killed. Battle of Wounded Knee. Second year of alarming drought. Many settlers destitute.
- 1891. Good conditions restored.
- 1892. Lake Traverse Reservation (Sisseton-Wahpeton) opened to white settlement.
- 1893. Charles H. Sheldon succeeds Mellette as governor.
- 1895. W.W. Taylor, state treasurer, defaults for \$367,000, and absconds. Returned and is convicted. Period of great depression and hard times. Springfield Normal School organized.
- 1896. The tide turns. Beginning of long period of prosperity.
- 1897. Andrew E. Lee succeeds Sheldon as governor.
- 1898. Spanish War. First South Dakota Infantry sent to Philippines. Distinguished service there.
- 1899. First South Dakota Infantry returns from Philippines crowned with glory. President McKinley welcomes the regiment home.
- 1901. Charles N. Herried succeeds Lee as governor. Northern Normal and Industrial School opened at Aberdeen.
- 1903. Bishop O'Gorman predicts finding of Verendrye plate.
- 1904. Opening of portion of Rosebud reservation land brings unprecedented rush of home seekers. Some 106,000 persons apply for right to enter lands. Mitchell contests with Pierre for state Capital. Pierre for third time successful.
- 1905. Samuel H. Elrod succeeds Herried as governor. Legislature authorized building of new capitol.
- 1907. Coe I. Crawford succeeds Elrod. Northwestern and Milwaukee railroads completed from Missouri River to Black Hills.

- 1908. Corner stone of Capitol Building laid June 25. Opening of Rosebud Reservation in Tripp County, in October.
- 1909. Robert S. Vessey succeeds Crawford. Cheyenne River and Standing Rock lands opened October 4, and 80,142 persons registered.
- 1910. New capitol dedicated, June 30.
- 1911. Serious drought. Ex-Sen. Alfred B. Kittredge, died May 4. Bartlett Tripp, Ex-Chief Justice, died December 8.
- 1912. Fine crops.
- 1913. Frank M. Bryne succeeds Vessey as governor. State Tax Commission created and assessment made at full value. Prof. Niels E. Hansen made trip to Russia under auspices of state to secure subhumid alfalfas. February 16, 1913, - Verendrye plate found at Fort Pierre.
- 1914. Robert L. Slagle, president State College, transferred to presidency of State University. George W. Nash resigns presidency Northern Normal and Industrial School; Willis E. Johnson chosen his successor. Ellwood C. Perisho, dean of State University, chosen president of State College at Brookings.
- 1915. Third State Census taken. 583,747 population. Bank Deposits guaranteed.
- 1916. Fourth South Dakota National Guard called into Federal service May 20 and sent to Mexican border. Constitutional prohibition adopted. William Jayne, first territorial governor, died March 20 at Springfield, Illinois. South Dakota enters into number of socialist ventures, including Rural Credits, State Hill Insurance, State Bonding, coal mining and cement making; all liquidated, except cement manufacturing, by 1932.
- 1917. Peter Norbeck succeeds Bryne as governor. March 3, Fourth Regiment returned from Mexican border and mustered out at Camp Crook, Omaha. April 6 - War against Germany declared. June 5 - first selective draft, and 58,014 young men registered. July 14 - First Cavalry mobilized at home stations. July 15 - Fourth Regiment mobilized at home stations. October 1 - Rural Credits Act became effective. October 4 - John P. Williamson, notable missionary, died at 82.
- 1918. June 6 - second selective draft, and 5,197 men registered. September 12 - third selective draft, and 77,179 men registered. Great epidemic of influenza; 50,000 cases and 1,000 deaths in South Dakota. November 11 - armistice signed with Germany.
- 1919. State Highway Commission established. September 25 - great fire broke out in Homestake mine. Not extinguished until December 1. Mine flooded up to sixth level. Yankton bridge begun. December 2 - special legislative session ratified Federal Equal Suffrage.

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1920. May 20 - great cloudbursts in central portion of state, causing great damage and tying up transportation for 21 days. June 20-29 - special session legislature. October - Great fall in prices of farm produce caused severe financial crisis. State Coal Mine opened.
1921. William H. McMaster succeeds Norbeck as governor.
1922. Hon. Charles Sumner Whiting, Judge of Supreme Court, died on March 25, 1922. July 1 - Railway shopmen's strike demoralizes transportation until November. Cheyenne River bridge at Lacy built.
1923. Missouri River State Bridge Program undertaken for bridges at Rosebud, Chamberlain, Pierre, Forest City and Mobridge. Rosebud and Mobridge structures begun. Gov. McMaster launches "Gasoline War." Charles W. Pugsley succeeds Willis E. Johnson as president of State College.
1924. Severe gale, June 14, sweeps state, wrecking buildings and destroying eight lives. Yankton and Mobridge bridges dedicated. Chamberlain bridge begun.
1925. Carl Gunderson succeeds McMaster as governor. Administrative reorganization act passed and effective July 1. Fourth State Census. Population 681,260. September 1 - Rosebud Bridge dedicated. Rushmore National Monument, first called the Mount Harney Memorial Association, started in 1925; promoted and pushed through to final completion largely through efforts of Doane Robinson, state historian.
1926. June 28, Pierre-Fort Pierre Bridge dedicated. November 2, William J. Bulow, Democrat, defeats Carl Gunderson, Republican, for governor by 13,000 votes. First Democratic governor since 1901. Forest City Bridge completed.
1927. President and Mrs. Calvin Coolidge maintain Summer White House in Black Hills for three months. Hon. John Howard Gates, Judge of Supreme Court, died November 8.
1928. Ex-Gov. Charles N. Herried died July 6. Gov. Wm. J. Bulow re-elected governor.
1929. Louis N. Crill, Secretary of Agriculture, died February 7. C. E. Coyne, Lieutenant Gov., died May 27. John T. Grisby appointed lieutenant governor. Congress appropriated \$250,000 for Rushmore Memorial.
1930. Figure of Washington on Rushmore National Memorial unveiled July 4. Thomas Sterling, former U.S. Sen., dies August 26. Soldiers and Sailors Memorial begun at Pierre. Homestake has disastrous fire but produces \$8,426,000 in gold. Despite prevailing drought, U.S. Department values South Dakota crops at \$115,041,000. State Cement Plant manufactures 582,397 barrels of cement. Fiftieth anniversary celebrations held in many localities. Federal census taken; South Dakota's population 692,849. Warren E. Green, Republican, elected governor. W. J. Bulow, Democrat, U.S. Senator. Winter 1930-1931 sets record for fine weather.

1931. Legislature fixes boundaries of Congressional Districts; District 1, all east Missouri River; District 2, all west Missouri River. Newton Dexter Burch, Judge of State Supreme Court, died March 18. We're growing old - more fiftieth anniversaries of settlement celebrated. Funds for annex to State Capitol made available.
1932. Bumper crop of small grain and hay. Markets very bad. Capitol annex completed and occupied. Peter Norbeck, Republican, re-elected to U.S. Senate. Tom Berry, Democrat, succeeds Green, as governor.
1933. Legislature resubmits prohibition amendment. Enacts gross income tax; makes drastic reduction in taxation.
1934. July 28. National Geographic Society - U.S. Army balloon the "Explorer" rises into the stratosphere from Black Hills; lands near Grand Island, Nebraska. July 28. Monument to Indian chiefs and Indian World War soldiers dedicated at Little Eagle, Corson County.
1935. Jan 8. Inauguration of State officials. Legislature fails to re-enact Gross Income Tax Law. Net income and Sales Tax Law passed. Liquor business legalized. Tax on chain stores enacted. November 11. The "Explorer II" manned by Capt. A.W. Stevens and Capt. O.A. Anderson rose from its base near Rapid City to the greatest height yet attained by man - 72,395 feet. Stratosphere balloon came to earth near White Lake.
1936. May 5. Primary election held. President Roosevelt visited state during summer. November 3 - General election. Leslie Jensen succeeds Berry; Republicans win offices of Gov., lieutenant governor, two places on board of railroad commissioners, and control of legislature. Francis H. Case, Republican, of Custer defeats T.B. Werner for Congress in Second District. Chan Gurney, Republican candidate for Senate, defeated by Sen. Bulow.
1937. Jan 5 - state officials inaugurated; state legislature convened. Legislature abolishes Department of Justice; duties transferred to Attorney General, Highway and Agriculture departments. Ore tax increased from 4 percent to 6 percent of the value of article produced. A total of 181 miles of state road hardsurfaced in 1937. Sylvan Lake Hotel completed. George W. Wright of Huron, Secretary of Finance, died April 9, 1937; succeeded by J. M. Berry of Ipswich, April 20, 1937. Hon. Dwight Campbell resigned from Supreme Court Bench and was succeeded by St. Clair Smith, January 9, 1937. Apportionment of Senators and Representatives under Constitutional amendment.
1938. Primary election May 3. Some 485 miles of state roads hardsurfaced; complete hardsurfacing of Highway 16 across entire state; event celebrated at Chamberlain June 22-24, 1938 - Gov. Jensen, chief speaker. Hon. C.G. Sherwood, former Supreme Court Judge, April, 1923 to January, 1931; died August 17, 1938. National Cornhusking Contest held south of Sioux Falls November 3, 1938; over 125,000 attend. Complete Republican victory November 8.

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1939. Inauguration of State officials January 3; Harlan J. Bushfield succeeds Jensen as governor; first meeting of legislature under redistricting. South Dakota celebrated Fiftieth Anniversary of Statehood July 2. Figure of Theodore Roosevelt on Rushmore National Memorial unveiled. Gutzon Borglum, sculptor, and Gov. Harlan J. Bushfield principal speakers. Total value of crops, \$75,422,00. Mineral production in excess of \$20,000,000. No bank failures. One million tourists visit state.
1940. May 7, Gov. Bushfield defeats A.N. Graff for Republican gubernatorial nomination. Lewis W. Bicknell defeats A.O. Steensland in Democratic contest. November 5, Republicans sweep state, winning every major political post: Wilkie by 45,000; Gov. Bushfield by 31,000. Case and Mundt retain seats in Congress. In legislature, Republicans win 95 of 110 seats. Crops reach \$100,000,000 again. Minerals and tourists exceed 1939.
1941. January 7 - Legislature convenes. Gov. Bushfield and other elective officials inaugurated. Sales tax reduced from three to two per cent beginning July 1. March 6. World famous sculptor, Gutzon Borglum, died at Chicago. Mt. Rushmore Memorial is his legacy to the ages.
1942. May. Tom Berry defeats U.S. Sen. W.J. Bulow for Democrat senatorial nomination. Gov. Harlan J. Bushfield wins right to oppose Berry in November by defeating Secretary of State Olive A. Ringsrud. Primary fails to produce a Republican nominee for governor. M.Q. Sharpe wins place in convention. November, Gov. Bushfield elected to U.S. Senate. M.Q. Sharpe elected governor. Republicans win 100 of 110 seats in legislature. Population loss continues.
1943. Gov. Sharpe inaugurated. State income tax abolished. State departmental consolidations effected. Office of Comptroller established. Flood stages along Missouri River in March and April. Pick-Sloan plan for development of Missouri Valley announced. 109th Battalion Combat Engineers (South Dakota's 109th Eng. Rept.) in combat in North Africa and Italy. 147th F. A. Battalion (South Dakota's 147th F. A. Regt.) in combat in South Pacific. Major Joe Foss of Sioux Falls becomes World War II ace, shooting down 26 Japanese planes; receives Congressional Medal of Honor. State subscribes to \$69 million E Bonds and is above quota. Bushel crops made 231,600,000 bushels or 48 million above 20 year average. Cattle, hogs, sheep reach total of 6,556,000.
1944. State blessed with good crops. In November election, Republicans sweep state. Chan Gurney re-elected to U.S. Senate. Congressmen Francis Case and Karl Mundt returned to House. Gov. M.Q. Sharpe re-elected. All Republican State Senate and House of 72 Republicans to 3 Democrats in 1945. Gov. Sharpe heads Missouri River States Committee. 109th Combat Engineers in France and 147th F. A. in Philippines. Lt. Cecil E. Harris, Cresbard, becomes second World War II ace with 24 airborne and four grounded planes. State subscribed to \$136,000,000 in three E Bond Drives. Special session of legislature in July passes veterans' aid and election laws. Bushel crops reach total of 309,784,000 bushels and farm animals reach all time high.

1945. Legislature convenes. Inauguration of Gov. Sharpe and other elected officials. President Franklin Delano Roosevelt dies at Warm Springs, Ga., April 12. Vice-President Harry Truman succeeds him. Park board abolished and merged with Game and Fish Department. Power District Law defeated by legislature. State census reveals further population losses to 589,702. Over 60,000 South Dakotans in armed services. Precipitation records broken in many areas. Bushel crops reach total of 364,438,000 bushels. State subscribes for \$105,000,000 E Bonds - again over quotas. Total war bond sales aggregate \$552,288,000 or nearly \$1000 per capita.
1946. Inauguration of Missouri Valley Development by commencement of Fort Randall Dam on Missouri and Angostura project on with fork of Cheyenne near Hot Springs. M.Q. Sharpe, asking a third term, defeated by George T. Mickelson in primaries. Fall elections continue Republican trend. South Dakota leads the nation in least amount of E Bond redemptions. Total state bank deposits \$230,298,000 at same time or total deposits of near \$450,000,000. This was a further liquid asset of better than \$750 per capita.
1948. Gov. George T. Mickelson re-elected for second term in November general election, at which voters also approved Constitutional Amendment providing for payment of Soldiers' Bonus, not to exceed \$30 million.
1949. January 4, - Thirty-first Legislature convenes and passes World War II Veterans' Bonus Bill, sponsored by Gov. Mickelson. January 3 - severest blizzard ever recorded in territorial or state history, hits western half state. Snow drifts 30 feet deep in foothills and ranchlands, submerging haystacks and sometimes entire herds stock. Gov. Mickelson pushes bill through legislature appropriating \$100,000 for disaster relief - calls Army to rescue; all available caterpillars, trucks and road machinery commandeered, opening roads to isolated towns, ranches and haystacks. Medical supplies, foodstuffs and stock feed delivered to stricken countrysides. Both public and privately owned airplanes conducted efficient reconnaissance.
1950. Nomination of Sigurd Anderson by a slim margin over four individuals was outstanding political event of the year. Construction is started on the Oahe Dam, work on the Fort Randall Dam nears completion. Initiation of Old Age Survivors' Insurance on a state and political sub-division level is recognized as a B-36 bomber base and the construction connected with the development of the base is most important to South Dakota.
1951. Legislature creates Legislative Research Council expands bonus payments for World War II Veterans, passes Voluntary School District Reorganization law. In October state sales tax reduced from three to two cents. Angostura Reservoir near Hot Springs finished. Former Gov. Tom Berry of Belvidere dies.
1952. Gov. Sigurd Anderson elected Chairman of Inland Governors Conference and Missouri River State Committee. Closure ceremonies held at Fort Randall Dam at Pickstown. Construction continues on Oahe Dam and ground breaking ceremonies held at Gavins Point Dam near Yankton. A severe winter resulted in

Gov. Anderson appointing a snow disaster emergency committee. Storm damages surpass previous record of 1949. U.S. Air Force planes from all over the nation participated in Air Lift by dropping hay to isolated cattle. Spring floods of Missouri River and tributaries brought response by Gov. Anderson who organized flood disaster committee. Gov. Anderson re-elected for second term; first South Dakota governor to receive more than 200,000 votes. The largest road buildings program in the state's history occurred.

1953. First South Dakota drivers' license law takes effect. Sitting Bull's body returned to South Dakota from North Dakota after 62 years. Closure ceremonies held at Fort Randall. President Eisenhower spends three days at Game Lodge in Custer State Park. First commercial oil well brought in by Shell Oil Co. in Harding County. Yankton toll bridge becomes free bridge.
1954. Former Gov. George T. Mickelson appointed U.S. District Judge. One-half block in Kimball destroyed by fire. President Eisenhower pulls switch releasing power from Fort Randall Dam. Supreme Court rules Joe Foss eligible candidate for governor; Foss elected. South Dakota retires Rural Credit debt, becomes eighth state in nation to be debt free. Metron B. Tice, Mitchell, elected National Commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. State Fair reports biggest receipts in history.
1955. Legislature enacts sweeping changes in taxation and assessment and school re-organization laws. Korean War Veterans Bonus financed by temporary taxes which are automatically repealed when all bonus claims paid. Some 26,625 veterans receive total of \$9,811,540 in bonus payments and taxes to support program repealed after eight months. Gov. Foss organizes SD Industrial Development and Expansion Agency (IDEA) to attract new industry. Uniform state personnel policies adopted. Gov. Foss orders investigations at State Sanatorium and Yankton State Hospital which result in staff changes.
1956. Gov. Foss and all other State Republican office holders re-elected. State launches largest highway construction program in history as \$39.6 million is programmed for over 737 miles of new road construction. Gov. Foss elected chairman of Missouri Basin States Committee and named to executive board of annual Gov.'s Conference. National Guard and private truckers cooperate to deliver hay to drought-stricken areas. Fort Randall Dam dedicated. National Guard Regiment (196th Infantry) converted to Engineer and Artillery units after unprecedented vote among officers and men. William Pringle, Pierre, elected president of Izaak Walton League of America; Gerald Cray, Deadwood, becomes Imperial Potentate of Shriners of North America. More than two million tourists visit state.
1958. Yankton given All-American City award. South Dakota University wins NCAA small college basketball crown. Axel Beck of Elk Point sworn in as second U.S. district court judge. Dr. H.M. Briggs chosen president of State College. Thousands watch dramatic closure of Oahe Dam by giant earth movers. Barbara Gunderson named to U.S. Civil Service Commission. Democrats seize gover-

nor's office for first time in 22 years with election of Ralph Herseth of Houghton.

1959. The first Democratic administration in 22 years took office, but Republicans controlled House and Democrats the Senate. Gov. Herseth's primary legislative recommendation, a study of state and local taxes, adopted. Other major legislative actions included record 61.3 million budget, moving School for the Blind from Gary to Aberdeen, an implied-consent blood test law for drivers, and a drivers license bill. The state thus became the last in the Union to require tests for the privilege of driving. The establishment of a Titan ICBM missile base at Rapid City announced. Supreme Court Judge Harold Bogue, while vacationing, drowned in Florida surf. A forest fire seriously threatened the cities of Lead and Deadwood. A trio of youths held up Kranzburg bank, but later returned the money. Former Gov. Joe Foss named head of new American Football League.
1960. Former Gov. and U.S. Sen. William J. Bulow died. Federal assistance provided to drought areas in the state, while floods caused damage in the Sioux Falls area. An emergency fund created to feed starving pheasants. Sen. Lyndon Johnson spoke at ceremonies to break ground for Big Bend Dam. U.S. Sen. Hubert Humphrey, a South Dakota native, announced his candidacy for the presidency. Gov. Herseth suffered a mild heart attack. Republicans came back after two years of Democratic administration with State Rep. Archie Gubbrud leading the slate, winning all state-house offices and control of both legislative houses. Karl Mundt and E.Y. Berry re-elected to Congress; Ben Reifel (a part-Sioux Indian) elected from the First Congressional district. Rep. George McGovern named by President-elect Kennedy as Food for Peace chief.
1961. Archie Gubbrud, former Speaker of the South Dakota House of Representatives and Alcester farmer, sworn in as the twenty-second governor after winning an upset victory over incumbent Democratic Gov. Ralph Herseth. Legislative reapportionment caused a storm of protest when the legislature, in the final hours before adjournment, gave an additional House seat to Minnehaha County and took one Senate seat from Brown County to increase Pennington County's representation in the Senate. The legislature also undertook a major investigation of the State Training School at Plankinton, resulting in the hiring of a new superintendent, Edward Green. Dr. I.R. Salladay resigned as medical director of the State Hospital. A racial incident occurred in Rapid City when a cafe owner refused service to a visiting African dignitary. The purchase of additional limestone deposits by the Cement Plant stirred up controversy and charges of mismanagement of public funds. P.J. Mahoney appointed director of State Employment Security Department, but ousted former Director Goldie Wells only after a courtroom fight. Five South Dakota National Guard units recalled to service during the Berlin crisis in late August. Corps of Engineers land acquisition for Big Bend Dam slowed as construction began. The most successful pheasant season in history drew thousands of hunters to South Dakota.
1962. Sen. Francis Case dies in Washington D.C. Despite a clean sweep by the GOP of the State House, Joe Bottum, former Lt. Gov., and appointee to complete Sen. Francis Case's unexpired term, was narrowly beaten. Joe Bottum had been ap-

pointed to fill Case's unexpired term. The spring of 1962 was one of the wettest and most destructive springs in South Dakota history, including a tornado in Mitchell and major floods in Rapid City and the northern Black Hills. President Kennedy dedicated the power facilities at Oahe Dam. Five persons lost their lives when an overpass on Interstate 90, east of Rapid City, collapsed. A long strike against the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad slowed economic growth in central and western South Dakota and almost halted construction at the West River missile sites and at Oahe and Big Bend Dams. The electorate approved constitutional amendments permitting annual sessions of the legislature, authorizing municipal home rule, and giving the South Dakota Highway Department authority to condemn and take possession of land before the landowner is compensated.

1963. The city of Aberdeen became the "Quint City" with the birth of quintuplets to Mrs. Andrew Fischer on September 14. Newsmen from across the nation converged on South Dakota to report the story. The dispute between Herried and Mound City over the location of the Campbell County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service office came to a boil; the federal government threatened to use federal marshals to secure remaining records from the blockade office in Mound City. The State appropriated budget reached a record high of \$77.6 million. The tribal leaders of the Sioux Indians were successful in having the law adopted by the legislature to assume jurisdiction over the Indian Country, referred for replacement on the November 1964 ballot. Dr. Harvey Davis, curriculum consultant, recommended consolidation of the state institutions of higher learning. Nebraska and South Dakota hassled about fishing privileges in the Nebraska portion of the Gavins Point tail waters area. The Black Hills suffered from a bark beetle infestation. The new medical aid to the aged plan, adopted by the 1963 legislature, was first delayed, then rejected, by the federal government.
1964. Native-born South Dakotan Hubert Humphrey was elected vice-president. Humphrey was born at Wallace and reared at Doland. The state supported the Republican party members of Congress, all state constitutional offices, and for a majority of both houses of the State Legislature, but voted Democratic nationally - the first time in nearly 30 years. The first annual 30-day session of the legislature was held. The state's pheasant population declined sharply. At the instigation of the legislature, the office of the Attorney General investigated the insurance industry in South Dakota and recommended remedial legislation for what the investigator, Vinton Nutt, termed the "worst insurance department in the fifty states." The voters turned down a referred law to assume criminal and civil jurisdiction over Indian Country in South Dakota. Mrs. Lawrence Stavig, Sioux Falls, wife of the president of Augustana College, was named National Mother of the Year. Devastating fires swept the Black Hills. The National Farmers Organization conducted a livestock withholding action; violence in conjunction with the action included road blockades, slashed tires, and cut fences.
1965. Legislative reapportionment caused bitter controversy. The issue was settled by moving the existing congressional line, which followed the main channel of the Missouri River, approximately 100 miles eastward. The makeup of the Senate

was changed to provide 29 districts. An increase in the sales tax and use tax from two to three per cent was passed by the legislature. Property tax relief funds were returned to counties for distribution to taxpayers. The pheasant slump caused restriction of hunting with a resultant loss in tourist revenue. A jurisdictional fight between public and private utilities was settled by compromise legislation. Flash floods in the Black Hills area caused considerable property damage. Legislation designed to coordinate vocational training in the state was passed.

1966. The worst blizzard on record hit South Dakota in March. The storm claimed 10 lives and loss of livestock was estimated at 95,000 head. Secretary of State Dean Rusk dedicated Big Bend Dam, the last project in the Pick-Sloan plan. A comprehensive revision of the state insurance code was passed by the legislature. The Uniform Commercial Code was adopted. A state data procession system was authorized. Bills were passed enabling the state to participate in the Federal Medicare program. A State Planning Agency and a Fine Arts Council was created by the legislature. Three constitutional amendments were passed in November. Amendment A classifies all property within an independent school district as either agricultural property or non agricultural property and defines both classes. This amendment also limits the mill levy on agricultural property for such school districts to 24 mills. Amendment B provides the county superintendent of schools be on local option basis. Amendment C allows the Supreme Court to establish county courts by district, thereby allowing a county judge to serve more than one county. The federal Highway Beautification Act caused considerable controversy over billboard advertising. Mule skinner Jean De Haven drove a 20-mule team from Death Valley, California, to Wessington, bringing national publicity to the state. Balloonist Nick Piantanida's free fall attempt at Sioux Falls ended in disaster when oxygen mechanism failed, and he later died as a result. The pheasant season was restricted as the birds continued to decline.
1967. The 1967 legislature set in motion steps for school reorganization by passing a law and referring it to a vote of the people. The legislature also provided an automobile safety inspection program to conform to federal standards. It created the State Building Authority to finance capital construction projects. The state also provided a retirement system for its employees. Dr. M. F. Codington, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, died, and Dr. Gordon Diedtrich was appointed to replace him. In April the National Farmers' Organization began to slaughter hogs to protest low prices for pork. A crazed party in a divorce suit in Rapid City began shooting in the courtroom and killed his wife, and attorney, and wounded the judge before being subdued. Several reformed convicts from the state penitentiary began "Operation Pitfall," a program of visiting schools to convince young people to get a good education and stay out of trouble. Pheasants Unlimited, Inc. was formed to stop the decline in the state's pheasant population.
1968. Politics claimed the attention of South Dakota throughout 1968. After President Johnson's announcement that he would not seek another term, Sen. Robert Kennedy entered the state's Democratic Primary and defeated Sen. Eugene

McCarthy of Minnesota and vice-president Hubert Humphrey. Following Sen. Kennedy's assassination on the eve of his victories in South Dakota and California primaries, Sen. George McGovern entered the race for the Democratic Presidential nomination. Vice President Humphrey won the nomination in Chicago. However, the Republican nominee, Richard Nixon, carried the state in the November election. The Republican state ticket headed by Congressman E.Y. Berry and Ben Reifel and Attorney General Frank Farrar, the gubernatorial candidate, swept the state offices although the Democrats made some gains in the legislature. Sen. McGovern was the lone Democrat to retain his seat after a bitter contest with former governor Archie Gubbrud. In other election results the people narrowly supported the action of the legislature to provide for school reorganization. A referred law to eliminate daylight savings time was defeated at the polls. Only one of five constitutional amendments survived the general election. Teacher militancy grew in the state as 4,000 teachers marched on Pierre demanding more state aid for education. Teachers engaged in lengthy strikes in Rapid City in the fall. The strike was finally settled when the court issued an injunction requiring the teachers to return to work. Rapid City was shaken by the death of six Rapid City High School cheerleaders in the crash of a light plane returning to Rapid City after the State A Basketball tournament in March. Thomas James White Hawk was the center of a controversy regarding capital punishment after he was convicted of murder and sentenced to die in the electric chair. The Board of Regents named Dr. Richard Gibb as the state's first Commissioner of Higher Education. Congress approved the Oahe irrigation project but refused to fund it until the state repealed its ban on non-resident hunting of migratory waterfowl. Jet airplane service was inaugurated in most of the state's larger cities. The state was featured in a new motion picture called *The Family Band* which centered around early South Dakota politics. South Dakota rodeo star Casey Tibbs made a movie, *Born to Buck* featuring South Dakota horses. Filming was begun in Mexico on *A Man Called Horse*, a movie about Sioux Indian tribes, featuring Indians from the Rosebud area.

1969. Before the winter of 1968-69 was over, a record 100 inches of snow fell in parts of eastern South Dakota. The legislature appropriated \$500,000 in emergency state aid to help local communities clear snow and repair flood damage. The 1969 Legislative Session was marked by two controversial issues. Tax reform divided the houses of the legislature with the House passing a bill to levy a three percent adjusted gross income tax only to see it die in committee in the Senate. An eleventh hour compromise was agreed upon which increased the excises on gasoline and cigarettes. The legislature also granted cities the right to impose non ad-valorem taxes other than motor fuel taxes. A bill backed by Gov. Farrar which created a consumer's Gas and Electric Council to regulate the electric power and gas distribution industry created a storm of controversy throughout the state. The bill finally cleared the legislature after passing the Senate by a single vote, but was referred to the people by its opponents. The legislature also passed a "no strike" law, but it did not stop the Sioux Falls Police Department from engaging in a "sick out" during a wage dispute with the city council. Two court cases received national attention. Gov. Farrar muted the death sentence of convicted killer Thomas White Hawk to life imprisonment without parole or pardon. Rancher Baxter Berry, who had been accused of murdering an Indian,

was tried and acquitted by an all-white jury after pleading self-defense. Some parts of the national news media attempted to portray the two trials as a contrast of justice with racial overtones. President Nixon visited the state to honor his longtime friend Sen. Karl Mundt by dedicating the Karl E. Mundt Library at Dakota State College. Late in the year Sen. Karl Mundt suffered a severe stroke.

1970. During the 1970 Legislative Session the Consumer's Gas and Electric Council law was repealed, which assured that it would not go to a vote of the people. Immediately after the 1970 Session an agricultural oriented group initiated a state income tax proposal which promised property tax relief. Gov. Farrar's renomination was challenged in the Republican Party primary by Pennington County State Sen. Frank Henderson. Although Gov. Farrar comfortably won renomination, the primary campaign was bitter. The Republicans also had hard primary campaigns in both congressional districts. The Democrats enjoyed a primary contest only in the second congressional district. State Sen. Richard Kneip easily defeated incumbent Gov. Farrar for governor. Democrats Frank Denholm and James Abourezk defeated Republicans Dexter Gunderson and Fred Brady for the state's two congressional seats. However, Republicans carried most of the state constitutional offices and retained wide majorities in both the houses of legislature. The people rejected the initiated state income tax by a large margin and also rejected an initiated measure to abolish mandatory fluoridation. Four of nine proposed constitutional amendments were accepted. Attorney General Mydland announced a crackdown on gambling which culminated in several raids around the state. This resulted in the legislature taking action to legalize limited forms of gambling. The legislature also repealed the 23-year-old ban on non-resident waterfowl hunting to facilitate congressional funding of the Oahe Irrigation Project. A massive manhunt was held through three states and Canada for Harold Halseth who was accused of kidnapping a Minnehaha County deputy sheriff at gunpoint and taking his patrol car. Halseth was captured in Canada. Fire swept through the business district of Artesian. Homestake Mining Company was ordered by the federal government to stop all mercury discharge into Whitewood creek. The Board of Regents created a controversy by ordering a freeze on all college enrollments. Later in the year the Commissioner of Higher Education brought out the even more controversial master plan, which recommended closing two of the seven state-supported colleges. Indian militancy appeared with the occupation of, first, Sheep Mountain and then Mount Rushmore.
1971. Acting on parts of the controversial "Master Plan for Higher Education" compiled by the Commissioner of Higher Education, the Board of Regents attempted to establish one engineering school at South Dakota School of Mines and Technology, with limited engineering courses taught at South Dakota State University. The matter became controversial during the 1971 legislative session and the legislature voted to override the Regents' action and continue the state's two engineering schools. The matter was further complicated because the Governor, Speaker of the House and Lt. Governor signed an incorrect version of the legislation to continue the two schools. The 1971 Legislature also merged Southern State College at Springfield as a branch of the University of South Dakota. There was a great deal of controversy over the seating of two new members of

the State Board of Regents. Outgoing Gov. Farrar appointed former Democrat state representative Elvern Varilek and Ron Schmidt to the Board of Regents. However, upon his inauguration, new Gov. Richard Kneip, withdrew those appointments and asked the two regents whose seats were becoming vacant to continue. The State Supreme Court ruled in favor of Kneip's action. The first Democrat administration in 11 years took office in the statehouse and Democratic Congressmen Frank Denholm and James Abouresk became U.S. Representatives. A legislative apportionment act passed which reduced the state House of Representatives from 75 to 70 members. Sen. George McGovern announced his candidacy for the democratic Presidential nomination. Tax reform was a major issue during the legislative session. Gov. Kneip proposed a state income tax and property tax relief. However, he was unable to convince the legislature to pass the proposed legislation. The South Dakota Farmers Union announced it would test the constitutionality of the local property tax for support of elementary and secondary education. Mount Rushmore was selected by the American Bicentennial celebration. There was a great deal of dispute over whether South Dakota was in compliance with federal highway beautification standards with the federal government threatening to withhold 10 percent of federal highway monies. A group of Indians took over Mount Rushmore for a short time to protest the failure of the government to meet Indian treaty obligations. The legislature appropriated funds to make South Dakota the first state to have a statewide weather modification program. The 1970 census revealed the state population decreased by 2.1 percent since 1960, from 680,514 to 666,257. There was a decrease of nearly 40,000 in the rural population.

1972. On June 9, Rapid City and other Black Hills areas hit by massive flooding in middle of the night with a loss of more than 200 lives and millions of dollars in damage. For the first time since the mid 1930s, the Democratic Party took control of both houses of the legislature. Gov. Kneip won re-election overwhelmingly and the Democrats swept almost all other statewide offices. Democratic Congressman James Abourezk defeated Republican Robert Hirsch for the U.S. Senate seat vacated by Sen. Karl Mundt. Republican James Abdnor won the Second Congressional District seat vacated by Abourezk. At the Democratic National Convention, U.S. Sen. George McGovern was nominated for president. In November he was defeated by Republican candidate Richard Nixon, carrying only Massachusetts and the District of Columbia. Gov. Richard Kneip's tax reform package was rejected by the legislature for a second time. The legislature enacted a program of property tax relief for the elderly and except for the drinking age, lowered the age of majority to 18. For the first time since statehood, a comprehensive revision of the state Constitution was completed when voters approved four revised articles of the state Constitution. The articles unified the court system; called for reorganization of state government and provided for four-year terms for governor; provided broad home-rule powers for local government units; and granted citizens the authority to initiate constitutional amendments. The Great Lakes of South Dakota Association attempted to conduct a statewide lottery. The matter became controversial and resulted in several court fights over whether the 1970 Legislature had intended to authorize a statewide lottery. The courts stopped operation.

1973. The village Wounded Knee, near the 1890 site of the last armed conflict between the Sioux Nation and the United States Army, became the focus of the most significant demonstration of the American Indian Movement's demand for Indian rights, when, on February 27, armed AIM members and sympathizers occupied the community. Federal and local law enforcement officers blockaded the area. The AIM occupation lasted for 71 days and resulted in the death of two occupiers, the serious wounding of law enforcement officers and extensive property damage. Peace was restored on May 8. On February 6, an American Indian Movement demonstration in Custer, protesting a criminal proceeding involving the death of an Indian, flared into a club-swinging confrontation between Indians and peace officers. Before the incident ended, three buildings, including the Custer County Courthouse, had been damaged by arsonists. In August, AIM leader Clyde Bellecourt was seriously wounded in a shooting incident. The alleged gunman, another AIM leader, was arrested but released when Bellecourt refused to testify against him. The Democratic Party was in control of the legislature for the first time since the New Deal era with the major issue the Governor's income tax. The tax bill failed in the Senate by one vote. Gov. Kneip also unveiled executive order 73-1. This executive document, authorized under a provision of the state Constitution, thoroughly revised existing state government by consolidating more than 160 state offices into 16 departments, headed by gubernatorial appointees. The Kneip administration drew additional public attention with two political developments. The Governor's choice for secretary of the new Department of Public Safety, former Planning Bureau Director Lynn Muchmore, whipped up a flurry of reaction to his innovative policy changes in his new post. Public and governmental responses prompted Muchmore to resign. Gov. Kneip raised a political and constitutional windstorm of his own when he announced his intention to run for a third term as Governor. The state Constitution restricts a Governor to two terms; however, a recent amendment to the executive article of the Constitution increasing the Governor's term from two to four years raised the question of whether the governor was limited to two two-year terms or a total of eight years. The South Dakota Supreme Court decided the issue in Gov. Kneip's favor. In a year marked by increasing national awareness of environmental protection, rumors of a possible plan to remove quantities of Army nerve gas from Colorado for storage at a federal facility near Igloo, precipitated an immediate protest. Federal officials did not attempt to make the transfer because of overwhelming public concern.
1974. The Wounded Knee trial in St. Paul of American Indian Movement leaders Dennis Banks and Russell Means lasted nearly nine months before Judge Fred Nichol dismissed felony charges against the two men. The Minnehaha County Courthouse was extensively damaged when AIM supporters and authorities brawled during the trials of persons charged in connection with the 1973 demonstration by American Indian Movement supporters at Custer. There was also a dispute involving whether non-Indians would come under federal, state or tribal jurisdiction for crimes and offenses committed on the reservations. Sen. George McGovern defeated former Vietnam prisoner of war Leo Thorsness in the November general election, gaining a third U.S. Senate term. Republican candidate William Janklow rolled to a landslide victory over incumbent Attorney General

Kermit Sande. Gov. Richard Kneip polled 53 percent of the vote in his victory over GOP challenger John Olson, making him the first governor in history to serve eight years. Political newcomer Republican Larry Pressler upset incumbent Democrat Congressman Frank Denholm. Second District Republican Congressman James Abdnor retained his Congressional seat. Control of the state legislature was split, with Democrats having a majority in the Senate and Republicans in the House. There were severe summer drought conditions and poor livestock prices and crop yields were down drastically. The giant Oahe Irrigation project, which envisions the irrigation of more than 110,000 acres in the north central and northeastern part of the state, was challenged when United Family Farmers filed suit unsuccessfully in federal court to halt the project. A four-year, degree-granting medical school at the University of South Dakota was created. The state Supreme Court upheld the 1972 constitutional amendment revising the executive article of the Constitution, thus confirming reorganization of the executive branch by the governor.

1976. Mount Rushmore was one of the national attractions during the national Bicentennial year. Drought was a critical issue. Many ranchers and farmers were forced to cut back their herds. In some areas, drought conditions were worse than the 1930s. U.S. Representatives Larry Pressler and Jim Abdnor won re-election. The Republicans gained control of the Senate and the House by a large majority.
1977. The Congressional decision to delete \$17 million from the federal budget for funding of the Oahe Irrigation Project was the top news story in 1977. After the elections in the fall of 1976, a majority of members on the Oahe Conservancy Subdistrict Board either opposed or questioned the project. President Carter agreed and asked for no funding. The Oahe controversy was a principal concern for many South Dakotans because the state had suffered with below average rainfall in many areas since 1973. But, the rains came in 1977. A wet fall delayed harvest, but crops were good. However, continuing low prices caused farmers to participate in a national agricultural strike on December 14. Gov. Kneip established a modern day record by issuing 30 vetoes during the 1977 Legislative Session; 16 were overridden by the legislature. The state's lawmakers continued their struggle with the federal government over who should control roadside signs and billboards.
1978. A \$16 million surplus in the state treasury enabled the legislature to repeal the state personal property tax. The legislature also appointed a special committee to develop ways to fund the repeal in the future. Problems occurred at the State Cement Plant when both new and old kilns did not function properly. Orders could not be filled. The lack of shipments to out-of-state customers caused a law suit and disenchantment among non-South Dakota buyers. Attorney General William Janklow was elected governor. Republican winners in all Constitutional offices. The only Democrat winner for state office was Ken Stofferahn as a new Public Utilities Commissioner. U.S. Congressman Larry Pressler won the Senate seat vacated by Sen. James Abourezk, Tom Daschle won Pressler's old position and James Abdnor was re-elected to a fourth term in the House of Representatives. November ballot action also included the repeal of a dairy marketing pro-

cedure that guaranteed profits for the state's private dairies and the defeat of an initiated obscenity law that some argued might have been declared unconstitutional. Gov. Richard Kneip resigned from office to accept the ambassadorship to Singapore. Lt. Gov. Harvey Wollman completed the final six months of the term. Good crops and low prices in 1977 coupled to create a grain storage problem. There was also a shortage of boxcars that hampered farm-to-market shipping. South Dakota farmers and ranchers joined representatives from other states in a tractorcade to Washington to protest the low prices. The federal government withheld \$4.5 million in federal highway funds when agreement could not be reached over billboard regulation. In December, parental complaints about singing of Christmas carols in public schools drew national attention.

1979. William Janklow was inaugurated governor. The nation's closest Congressional race was settled by a court ruling declaring Thomas Daschle the winner over Leo Thorsness. The legislature broadened the state's sales tax, hoping to raise \$19 million. In June, the Corn Palace in Mitchell was severely damaged by fire. The state suffered a drop in tourism caused by the national shortage of gasoline.
1980. Congressman James Abdnor defeated Sen. George McGovern in his bid for reelection. Gov. Janklow's plan to establish a state rail authority and purchase track and operate a state rail system passed the legislature. Citibank of New York relocated its credit card division in South Dakota. South Dakota suffered the worst drought since the 1930s. More than \$600 million worth of crops, hay and pasture withered under the hot sun. 25,000 pounds of marijuana were seized from a DC-7 plane near Akaska making it the biggest drug bust in South Dakota's history. The state suddenly found itself in a financial crisis which led Gov. Janklow to order a five percent reduction in state spending.
1981. Ronald Reagan was inaugurated U.S. president January 20. The 52 American hostages, held captive in American Embassy in Tehran, Iran, for 444 days released on inauguration day after lengthy negotiations. South Dakota showed growth in population, 666,257 in 1970 to 690,178 in 1980. Despite the increase in population, South Dakota lost one Congressman effective in 1982. The legislature raised several taxes to fund state government and assessed a penny to the state's gas tax to help fund the operation of a state railroad. A successful court challenge to the change in the gas tax resulted in the first special session of the legislature in 31 years. Assassination attempts were made on President Ronald Reagan and Pope John Paul II. An agreement was reached between the State of South Dakota and Energy Transportation Systems, Inc. (ETSI), a San Francisco company to sell Missouri River water in exchange for ETSI not using southwestern South Dakota water in its coal slurry pipeline. Gov. Janklow called the legislature into special session for a second time to make changes in the statutes to implement the agreement. Burlington Northern Railroad was granted the authority to operate South Dakota's 480-mile core of railroad track in eastern South Dakota. American Indian Movement (AIM) established a camp at Yellow Thunder southwest of Rapid City in an attempt to reclaim the Black Hills. Citibank opened its credit card division in Sioux Falls employing 300 people.

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1982. LaDonna Mathis and her two sons were shot to death on their Mt. Vernon farm in late 1982. Her husband John Mathis was acquitted of the triple murder. Gov. William Janklow won re-election over Democrat challenger Michael O'Connor. Republican incumbents Secretary of State Alice Kundert, Attorney General Mark Meierhenry, Auditor Vernon Larson, Treasurer David Volk all won re-election. Commissioner of School and Public Lands Julian Cheney recaptured the post for the Republicans. Democrat Dennis Eismach survived a recount over Republican Beverly Nuttbrock in the race for the Public Utilities Commission. Eismach's win gave control of the PUC to the Democrats. Incumbents Thomas Daschle (1st District) and Clint Roberts (2nd District) were pitted head-to-head for the state's lone Congressional seat. Daschle won a narrow victory. Korczak Ziolkowski died, leaving to his descendants the job of finishing his mountain carving of Chief Crazy Horse near Custer.
1983. The death of School and Public Lands Commissioner Julian Cheney created a controversy regarding vacancy. Gov. Janklow appointed State Treasurer David Volk to the position, combining the two offices. A successful court challenge separated the two positions and former Commissioner John (Jack) Gerken returned to complete the term. Following a vote of the people mandating single member senate districts, the legislature divided the state into 35 legislative districts each electing two representatives and one senator. Indian artist Oscar Howe died in Vermillion. South Dakota farmers idled 4.2 million acres of farmland under the Reagan administration's payment-in-kind (PIK) program. The legislature expanded the state's campaign to attract new industry by allowing state chartered banks to enter the insurance business. In addition, the legislature authorized "sale-leaseback" which allowed the state to sell public buildings and continue to use them under lease from the private sector.
1984. By a one vote margin, the state House of Representatives approved Gov. Bill Janklow's plan to convert the college campus at Springfield to a prison. The first prisoners were housed in Springfield by the end of the year. Heavy rains and June floods topped the weather stories. A federal disaster team estimated damage at more than \$290 million. The Lake Menno dam burst forcing several farm families from their homes. The Bad River rose 23 feet in an eight-hour period at Fort Pierre. Sen. Larry Pressler set a new record with 235,176 votes (75 percent) in his re-election bid. South Dakotans re-elected Democrats Rep. Tom Daschle and PUC Commissioner Ken Stofferahn. Gov. Janklow called a special session in May to deal with water development. Six new water development districts based on major water projects were formed and the old conservancy subdistricts abandoned. New York Rep. Geraldine Ferraro became the first woman to run for vice president. The Mondale/Ferraro team lost to Reagan/Bush. A proposed Constitutional amendment to combine the offices of State Treasurer and Commissioner of School and Public Lands was rejected by voters. The agreement between the state and Energy Transportation Systems, Inc. (ETSI) to sell Missouri River water was discontinued.
1985. The legislature attracted national attention and made history by sending its entire membership to Washington, DC, to lobby national leaders on the agricultural crisis. Gov. Janklow initiated his Rural Renaissance program to assist farmers

hit by drought and low farm prices. Thirty-nine counties were declared eligible for drought disaster aid. South Dakotans voted in their first statewide special election in November, turning down a nuclear waste compact with North Dakota by an 83-17 percent vote. Chem-Nuclear abandoned plans to build a hazardous waste site near Edgemont. After a 12-week strike, Morrell workers in Sioux Falls ratified a new contract.

1986. Following wide open primaries in both parties, the Republicans retained control of state government and Democrats filled the federal seats. Gov. Bill Janklow challenged incumbent Sen. James Abdnor in a primary. Abdnor won, but lost to Rep. Tom Daschle in the general election. State Rep. Tim Johnson picked up the U.S. House seat vacated by Daschle. George S. Mickelson and Lars Herseth, both sons of former Governors, opposed each other for governor. Mickelson won with a 51-49 percent margin. All Constitutional officers elected were Republicans. James Burg elected the third Democratic member of the Public Utilities Commission. Democrats picked up 10 seats in the legislature. The spaceship *Challenger* exploded, causing instant death for seven astronauts and Christi McAuliffe, the first teacher-in-space. Five years of wet weather created flood conditions in eastern South Dakota, causing more than \$50 million in damages. New lakes were formed in Kingsbury and Miner counties. President Reagan made two visits to the state in an unsuccessful attempt to retain a Republican United States Senate. A fire in downtown Redfield destroyed almost a block of business buildings. Union County grieved over two murder-suicides in one day.
1987. Gov. George Mickelson was successful in promoting his one-cent sales tax for economic development with the legislature, and the establishment of the Revolving Economic Development and Initiative (REDI) Fund. South Dakota was one of the first states to adopt the 65 mph speed limit on interstate highways after U.S. Congress approved the change. Two former governors died; Richard Kneip on March 9 and Archie Gubbard on April 25. The farm crisis continued to plague the Midwest, with farm foreclosures at a record high and land values dropping. Air service continued to deteriorate in the middle-sized cities in the state. The State Capitol renovation continued and ground was broken in Pierre for the Cultural Heritage Center. The first of a fleet of B-1 Bombers arrived at Ellsworth Air Force Base. The legislature appropriated \$900,000 to assist the efforts of economic developers in the state to acquire the Supercollider for South Dakota. The \$4.4 billion atom smasher involves building a 57 mile circular tunnel for an energy-related research project. Gov. George Mickelson called a special session on July 16 to finalize the state's commitment to the project application. The drinking age was raised from 19 to 21 by the 1987 legislature after an attempt to challenge in court the federal government's right to withhold highway funds until such a law was passed.
1988. The research-linked Future Fund grant program bestowed the first business-university research grant in 1988. The Future Fund program, initiated by Gov. Mickelson, was funded with \$5 million of employers' contributions to the state unemployment insurance trust fund. The state conducted its first early presidential primary in February. This early date brought many presidential candidates to South Dakota and gave the state national exposure. Republican Bob Dole and

Democrat Dick Gephardt won their party's primaries. South Dakota suffered the worst drought in 50 years. The northern and western parts of the state were the driest with thousands of acres of grassland and forest destroyed by fires. U.S. Rep. Tim Johnson won re-election by defeating Republican challenger David Volk. Republican Laska Schoenfelder upset incumbent Dennis Eisnach for a position on the Public Utilities Commission. South Dakotans rejected Dakota Proposition II, a constitutional amendment to limit property taxes.

1989. Four bronze statues were placed in the capitol rotunda throughout the year. Named for attributes of early pioneers, *Vision*, *Wisdom*, *Integrity* and *Courage* they serve as a lasting legacy of the state's centennial. The legislature passed Gov. Mickelson's two-year property tax freeze. The South Dakota-Nebraska boundary compact was signed and later ratified by the legislature, changing the state's boundary to the centerline of the Missouri River's main channel. The state's first female state legislator, Secretary of State and U.S. Senator Gladys Pyle died at the age of 98. Legislators Rep. Debra Anderson and Sen. Mary McClure resigned to take positions in the White House. A grand jury investigation of the South Dakota State Penitentiary brought various charges, including marijuana distribution against former inmates and eight prison administrators. The Board of Charities and Corrections was replaced by the Department of Human Services and the Department of Corrections. During the year, South Dakota celebrated a century of statehood with the largest grass roots volunteer effort in the state's history. Hundreds of communities held special celebrations and created lasting legacy projects. Over 20 statewide Centennial events such as the Centennial Wagon Trains and the Missouri River Flotilla were held.

1990. Gov. George Mickelson declared 1990 the Year of Reconciliation to coincide with the 100th anniversary of the Wounded Knee Massacre. The declaration set into motion concentrated efforts to reach a new understanding and appreciation of the state's Indian heritage and to begin dialogue that heals. The movie "Dances With Wolves" opened nationally in November to rave reviews. Filmed in South Dakota, the movie showcased the vast beauty of the state and created new interest nationwide. People were interested in the stunning sunsets of South Dakota as well as the Indian heritage detailed in the movie about a cavalry man's encounter with Sioux Indians. The movie, featuring Kevin Costner, garnered seven Academy Awards including Best Picture, Best Director and Best Screenplay. The state legislature voted to make Martin Luther King Day a non-working holiday. The legislature changed the second Monday in October from Pioneer Day to Native American Day, a working state holiday. On November 6, voters approved a ballot measure requiring legislative approval of large-scale solid waste landfills and rejected a ballot measure which would have limited permits for surface mining to 3,100 acres. One constitutional amendment allowing the legislature to call itself into special session became law in 1990 while the voters rejected four other constitutional amendments. The failed amendments related to disposition of private property taken for public use, the eligibility for legislative office, the imposition of an income tax and a limit on the growth of taxes on real property. The U.S. Senate race drew the most interest in the general election. Republican Sen. Larry Pressler defeated Democrat Ted Muenster and Independent Dean Sinclair. Republican Gov. George Mickelson and De-

mocrat Representative Tim Johnson defeated their challengers, Bob Samuelson and Don Frankenfeld. Democrats won several seats in the state Senate, but fell one short of claiming a majority. Gambling in Deadwood generated \$281.5 million from November 1, 1989, throughout the end of October 1990. The gambling provided some vigorous growth in the community, but most of the main-street businesses were quickly converted into casinos. The 50th Black Hills Motor Classic in Sturgis brought more than 300,000 motorcyclists to the area, and boosted tourism in the state.

On August 2, Iraqi troops rolled into Kuwait and trampled the tiny mideastern country. Later, hundreds of South Dakota National Guards, Ellsworth Air Force Base personnel and South Dakota reserves made their way to duty in the Middle East war. They were among an estimated 500,000 U.S. troops in the Persian Gulf area. In September, a fire burned 14,200 acres of forest land southeast of Custer. The five-day blaze destroyed cabins in Custer State park and forced the evacuation of several homes.

1991. Desert Storm, the war in the Middle East, came to an end February 28, when Saddam Hussein accepted the terms of the United Nations cease fire. South Dakotans started coming home.

The legislature grappled with taxes, abortion and waste disposal. At the end, the Governor's tax bill was defeated and no compromise reached. The saga of Lonetree, a multistate waste disposal site near Edgemont, continued. A project that proposed burying more than one million tons of baled garbage a year in a land-fill near Edgemont was first approved by a state board. However, a group sponsored a petition to place the issue on the ballot. In November 1990, voters approved the initiative and in 1991 the legislature approved Lonetree. A group called Action for the Environment then gathered the required signatures to refer that law to the people. South Dakotans voted down the law at the November 1992 election. A bill outlawing abortion except when the mother's life is threatened and in cases of rape or incest, or when the baby would be born with profound deformities was defeated by the Senate after approval in the House. The bill caused a great deal of debate in the legislature. On July 3, President George Bush, Hollywood celebrities and other VIPs joined an estimated 2,000 people at Mount Rushmore's 50th anniversary and formal dedication. A commemorative stamp was also issued. Iona Klein of Dallas claimed a \$12.5 million Lotto America ticket and then admitted she had picked up the ticket at the convenience store where she worked. The dispute was settled in court when Klein split the winnings with the owners of the store. Video lottery becomes a major state revenue source and several cities pass ordinances designed to slow the spread of the machines.

1992. Although Republican President George Bush carried South Dakota, he was defeated by Democrat William Clinton in the November 1992 election, an election with a strong third-party candidate, Ross Perot. Perot received 21.8 percent of the South Dakota vote. Democrats gained control of the state Senate while Republicans maintained their majority in the House of Representatives. U.S. Senator Tom Daschle retained his seat. U.S. Representative Tim Johnson also defeated his opponents. Voters approved a Constitutional amendment limiting

terms of U.S. and state legislators and state constitutional officers. They defeated a referred law to approve the construction and operation of the Lonetree solid waste disposal facility; an initiated measure to impose a personal and corporate income tax and another to repeal the video lottery. Voters approved an initiative to provide acreage regulation and reclamation incentive for large-scale gold or silver surface mining. Donald Moeller, 40, was convicted and sentenced to death for the murder of 9-year-old Becky O'Connell in Sioux Falls. If the conviction stands, Moeller would be the first person executed in South Dakota since 1947. Dr. Michael Swango was removed from the University of South Dakota Medical School residency program in December after officials learned he was convicted in the non-fatal poisoning of six co-workers in Illinois in 1985. Many people questioned the system of choosing residents after the removal. Bob Koenig of Sioux Falls sued the Rapid City Catholic Diocese saying he was sexually abused as a child by the Rev. William Lambert. Wally Walton, a former Pierre minister, pleaded no contest to sex charges and agreed to testify against four family members. In May federal agents hauled off the bones of a 65 million-year-old *Tyrannosaurus rex*, prompting a legal battle and a series of protests. Sioux Falls was rated number one by Money magazine, making it the best place to live in America.

1993. On April 19, 1993, a state-owned plane crashed in Dubuque, Iowa, killing Gov. George S. Mickelson; Commissioner of the State Office of Economic Development Roland Dolly, Director of the Office of Energy Policy Ron Reed, Northern State Power General Manager Angus Anson; First Bank of South Dakota President and Chief Executive David Birkeland; Sioux Falls Development Foundation President Roger Hainje; and state pilots Ron Becker and David Hansen. Residents mourned statewide for the eight men and more than 13,000 South Dakotans filed reverently past the governor's casket as he lay in state in the capitol rotunda. The state's congressional delegation, 12 governors and U.S. Sen. Bob Dole of Kansas attended the memorial service in the capitol and a procession of cars followed the hearse carrying the governor's body from Pierre to Brookings for burial. Residents of cities along the route stood reverently, many with American flags, as the procession passed. Lt. Gov. Walter D. Miller was sworn in as governor on April 20, in a small ceremony in the capitol rotunda. He appointed Steve Kirby as lieutenant governor on May 20 and he was officially approved by the South Dakota legislature at a special session May 25. Gov. Mickelson was returning from Cincinnati, Ohio, where he and the others had met with officials of John Morrell & Co. During the 1993 legislative session, members voted to approve a bill raising the bet limit in Deadwood. Opponents of the legislation filed their intent to refer the law to a vote of the people immediately, saying they would have no problem gathering the 12,836 signatures needed.
1994. In June, the South Dakota Supreme Court ruled that the statewide gambling – including video blackjack, poker and keno games – violated the South Dakota Constitution because they did not fit the definition of a lottery. The state budget was formulated with the expectations of receiving \$65 million from the state's percentage of the games, and now that money would not be available. After a

series of legal steps to forestall the action, 7,589 machines were shut down in August. Meanwhile, the Legislature met in special session and cut the state budget by some \$28 million and used \$27 million in reserve funds to offset potential losses. The Legislature also put a constitutional amendment to reauthorize the video lottery on the November 8 ballot. After a hard-fought campaign, South Dakota voters passed the amendment allowing video lottery by 51 percent to 49 percent. The machines were turned back on November 22.

South Dakota was number one in the nation twice on election day. The state ranked number one nationally with the highest percentage of eligible voters turning out to vote. The second “first in the nation” came from kids involved in the Kids Voting project. South Dakota ranked number one in the percentage of students in grades K-12 involved in Kids Voting who showed up at the polling places to “practice” vote.

Governor Walter D. Miller, who was lieutenant governor and assumed the post of governor when Governor George Mickelson was killed in a plane crash in 1993, decided to seek re-election in 1994. He was opposed by former Governor William Janklow. Janklow served as governor from 1979 through 1986. Governor Janklow won the Republican primary and the following general election. He defeated Democrat Jim Beddow of Mitchell 55 to 41 percent.

The Legislature approved a package of \$10 million in state financial aid for John Morrell & Co. in an attempt to save its Sioux Falls plant.

The people voted against a property tax cut by a slim margin. The measure failed 49 to 51 percent. Republicans added to their majority in the state House of Representatives and regained control of the state Senate in the November election.

U.S. Senator Tom Daschle of South Dakota defeated Senator Christopher Dodd, a Democrat from Connecticut 24-23 to become the minority leader of the U.S. Congress for the next four years.

1995. In early January, Gov. William Janklow returned to the office he held from 1979 to early 1987. He was sworn in three days before his formal inauguration. After the initiated measure dubbed Dakota 1 failed to pass by a narrow margin in 1994, Gov. Janklow asked the legislature to cut property taxes by 30 percent. The governor's proposal would have reduced property taxes by \$120 million and included a controversial medical-services tax, which was deleted. Lawmakers decided to cut taxes by 20 percent. The property-tax reduction took effect in 1996, was funded by lifting many sales-tax exemptions, increasing the state's share of video-lottery profits, raising the cigarette tax and cutting state spending in other areas. Gov. Janklow also cut 755 state government jobs over several months. Many eastern South Dakota farmers were kept out of fields by incessant rain and spring snowstorms. This caused livestock losses and prevented planting or forced farmers to wait until late in the season to plant crops. The president approved a disaster declaration for 58 of South Dakota's 66 counties because of the weather and flooding. A snow and ice storm in October cut a

swath of destruction in the form of snapped power poles from Milbank to Gregory. Rural electric service was devastated in the region. Newcomers to the state might have thought 1995 was an election year. Campaign ads filled the airwaves for an expected Larry Pressler-Tim Johnson U.S. Senate race. The campaigning began a year and a half before the 1996 election. Early in the year John Morrell & Co. in Sioux Falls, a meat-packing plant that is one of the state's largest employers, dropped retirement benefits for 1200 retirees, prompting protests from officials across the state and from the retirees. Smithfield Foods, a Virginia company, was discussed in newspaper articles in 1995 as a prospective buyer for John Morrell and Company.

1996. Tim Johnson defeated Larry Pressler for a seat in the U.S. Senate in a race that demanded the state's attention for nearly 18 months. The two men spent more than \$8 million dollars campaigning, the largest amount ever spent in a South Dakota campaign. Johnson won the seat 51 to 49 percent. In other election news, John Thune, a 35-year-old Republican from Murdo and Pierre, defeated three candidates for the lone U.S. House of Representatives seat vacated by Tim Johnson. Also, President Bill Clinton campaigned in South Dakota twice while his opponent Bob Dole visited the state several times. Clinton rallied supporters in Brandon in September and in what was billed as his last campaign appearance, Clinton addressed a late-night rally in Sioux Falls on election eve. Other news items included a possible murder in Sioux Falls and a known murder by a teenager in Fort Pierre. Piper Streyle, a 28-year-old mother of two, disappeared from her rural Canistota home in late July. Authorities arrested Robert LeRoy Anderson, 26, of Sioux Falls, and charged him with kidnapping, although she had not been found. In January, Michael Hare, a 28-year-old taxi driver from Pierre, was shot and killed and robbed of \$34.48. Two teenagers were arrested near the scene and one of them, Paul D. Jensen Jr., 15, was convicted of murder and given life in prison. Communities across the state debated the merits of corporate farming when corporations, including Tyson Foods, offered South Dakota farmers contracts to run factory-style hog farms. In June, Gov. Janklow announced that 200 workers in the state Transportation Department would be laid off as part of a plan to save \$7 million. The Department of Transportation would use part-time seasonal positions to handle peak workloads. Taking advantage of Congress' decision to give states the authority to set highway speeds, the 1996 Legislature raised the speed limit on Interstates 90 and 29 to 75 miles per hour and to 65 miles per hour on most other state highways. Much of South Dakota was covered with thick ice in November.
1997. South Dakota suffered through endless blizzards that paralyzed much of the state throughout the long 1997 winter. Thousands of head of livestock died, many rural areas were cut off and local governments looked for funding to open roads and rescue people. In January, most of the state and some of the nation listened to reports while authorities searched for Karen Nelson of Webster who was trapped alone in her pickup truck while a blizzard raged. She kept contact with the outside world through her cellular phone. After 40 hours without food or water and only a few blankets to keep her warm, rescuers found her near a county road northwest of Webster. The huge snowdrifts then brought flooding

that put eastern South Dakota on alert as rivers and lakes rose to record levels. President Clinton signed a statewide disaster declaration.

Lake Kampeska near Watertown rose to six feet over full early in April and hundreds of people were forced to flee their lakeside homes. Vice President Gore visited South Dakota to see the flooding. The Big Sioux, James, Vermillion and Missouri rivers all caused flooding problems. It took the U.S. Congress until June to approve hundreds of millions of dollars in aid for the disaster. During the April floods, volunteers and prison crews struggled to keep the surging James River at bay, but the river won and James Valley Christian School near Huron was almost completely flooded.

Smithfield Foods purchased the Dakota Pork plant in Huron and the next day announced they were closing the plant, putting 850 people out of work. Dakota Pork's former owner, Carl Kuehne, said he sold the plant because of a chronic shortage of slaughter hogs. With less than two weeks until a November 3 deadline, supporters mounted a last-minute effort and gathered 31,162 signatures to put a Constitutional amendment on the ballot that would restrict corporate agriculture in South Dakota. The measure was referred to as the "corporate hog farm" amendment.

The Solem Public Safety Center near Pierre opened and was dedicated on October 23, 1997. It houses the South Dakota Women's Prison, the Department of Corrections central office, Pierre Police Department, Hughes County Sheriff's Office, a state Highway Patrol station and Division of Criminal Investigation agents. The prison takes up the majority of the 78,000 square foot building.

Gov. Bill Janklow appointed Gary Brown, Rapid City, to the House of Representatives to serve the remainder of the term of District 32 Rep. Mike DeMersseman, who resigned in December. Gov. Janklow appointed Rep. Don Brosz to the Senate to serve the remainder of the term of District 5 Senator Jim Thompson, who resigned. Gov. Janklow appointed Burdette Solum, Watertown, to the House of Representatives to serve the remainder of the term of District 5 Representative Don Brosz who was appointed to the State Senate.

Donald Moeller was back on death row after a retrial in the 1990 rape and murder of a Sioux Falls girl. Moeller's first conviction was overturned by the state Supreme Court. The jurors in his retrial in Rapid City came to the same conclusion as those in his first trial: Moeller is guilty and must die for the crime.

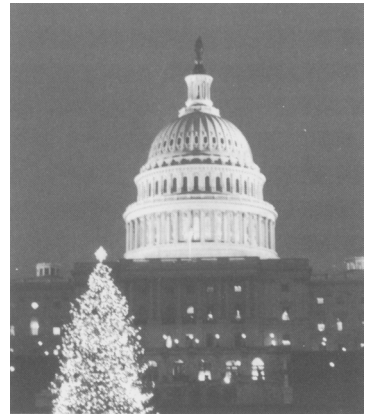
The 1997 legislature approved open enrollment which allows students to attend classes in the school districts of their choice without paying out-of-district tuition. Transfers are allowed both between school districts and within a district.

In October, a South Dakota rancher sold "Sue," the world's largest and most complete Tyrannosaurus Rex skeleton to the Field Museum of Natural History in Chicago for \$8.36 million. The 65-million-year-old fossil was discovered in 1990 on a ranch near Faith by a commercial fossil business in Hill City. The fossil was seized in 1992 by federal agents as part of an investigation into illegal

collecting. The fossil was returned to the ranch owner and sold to the Chicago museum in October 1997. It is being uncrated and will be on public display, cleaned up and reassembled in 2000.

The Philip High School Future Homemakers of America Chapter won the FHA's national Community Service Award for 1997 for their "Families First" project. The Philip FHA Chapter planned and implemented a week of special family activities to encourage families to spend more time together.

South Dakota supplied America's Holiday Tree, a 60-foot spruce from the Black Hills National Forest. The efforts to send a tree from South Dakota to Washington D.C. were launched in November 1996 at a ceremony on the Capitol steps in Pierre. A year later, the 60-foot spruce tree in the Black Hills National Forest was cut down, carefully bundled, placed on a Mack Truck and began its journey to the nation's capital. Fifteen communities in South Dakota held programs celebrating the tree's journey to Washington DC. The tree was South Dakota's gift to the nation and was displayed on the west lawn of the U.S. Capitol. Donations and the sale of sweatshirts and other mementos funded the project. The ornaments donated by South Dakota citizens and placed on America's Holiday Tree were placed in the National Archives. The Capitol City Children's Chorus from Pierre raised money and traveled to Washington D.C. to perform at the opening ceremony of the tree lighting.



*National Christmas Tree
Photo courtesy of Marty DeWitt.*

1998. A monstrous prairie tornado flattened the McCook County town of Spencer on May 30. The event brought national attention to the town and the outpouring of volunteers and aid. The tornado destroyed almost every building in Spencer, population 320. Six people died and 150 were injured. Gov. Bill Janklow set up a governor's temporary office at the site, and offered his help. When officials mounted a cleanup campaign and Gov. Janklow asked for 1,000 volunteers to help, some 8,000 people showed up that day. Fund raising for the victims brought in more than \$1 million. By the end of the year, some of Spencer's businesses were open and many new homes were being built or completed.

In September Gov. Bill Janklow ordered inspections of Canadian grain and livestock shipments entering the state because the federal government would not enforce the rules of international trade. The blockade gained support from other governors. When trade talks were scheduled in October, Gov. Janklow lifted the blockade.

Flooding continued in 1998, and northeastern South Dakota suffered greatly. More roads and farmland were flooded and there seemed to be no end to the wa-

ter problems. The Federal Emergency Management Agency came to the state twice and set up field offices to assess the damages.

Farmers suffered with low crop and livestock prices. At the end of the year hogs were sold for 10 cents a pound, the lowest since the 1950s. The U.S. Congress passed a multi-billion dollar farm aid package.

The debate over corporate hog farms manifested itself in 1998 as constitutional Amendment E. The measure, approved by the state's voters in November, bans non-family-farm corporations from growing crops and owning or raising livestock. It also prevents those companies from having financial interests in agricultural contracts, farm land and operations.

Janklow became the first South Dakota governor to be elected to four four-year terms. He won in November with 64 percent of the vote. Other Constitutional officers elected were all incumbents: Republicans Lt. Gov. Carole Hillard, Secretary of State Joyce Hazeltine, Attorney General Mark Barnett, State Auditor Vern Larson and Democrats State Treasurer Richard Butler and Commissioner of School and Public Lands Curt Johnson. Jim Burg was re-elected to the Public Utilities Commission.

Gov. Janklow instituted a program to wire all K-12 schools for technology, including Internet access, using prison crews. He also negotiated for substantial rate reductions for schools for telecommunications connections and Internet access. The schools were wired at less expense than any other state in the nation. Janklow then announced he was going to do the same for the universities and tech schools, private schools and public libraries.

Gov. Janklow's program to have prison inmates build housing for the elderly in small towns received a national achievement award from The National Council of State Housing Agencies.

1999. Governor Janklow appointed a task force to make sure South Dakota will be prepared for problems caused by the "Year 2000" computer glitch. The task force gathered information on the Y2K compliance status and progress of systems such as utilities, communications, health care, nursing care, public works, law enforcement and emergency services.

The Value-Added Agriculture Subfund (VASF) was implemented in July 1999. The VASF provided financing for projects which produce, use, or process any form of agriculture commodity, product, or by-product in the state. Research and development projects and feasibility studies for value-added projects are included. Agriculture producers, producer groups or agri-businesses are eligible to apply for grants or loans from the VASF.

Inmate-built houses for senior citizens and persons with disabilities became available throughout South Dakota. The homes were originally available to applicants from communities of less than 5,000 population and rural areas.

Senate Bill 95, which requires meatpackers to report the prices they pay for live-stock went into effect July 1.

Complaints by the State Training School inmates of abuse and by former employees of lack of training dominated headlines in South Dakota for most of the year. Gina Score, a 14-year-old inmate at the State Training School, died after a mandatory run at the girls' boot camp program at Plankinton on July 21st.

On October 25th, a runaway Lear-jet from Florida veered off course and crashed in a pasture near Mina, South Dakota. Professional golfer Payne Stewart and five others died in the crash. Experts believe that the plane's cabin had lost pressure.

Robert Leroy Anderson of Sioux Falls was convicted of murder in the deaths of Piper Streytle of rural Canistota and Larisa Dumansky of Sioux Falls. Anderson was sentenced to die by lethal injection.

President Clinton declared Shannon County a federal disaster area. Several tornadoes and severe storms hit the reservation June 4-5. One man died and more than 40 people were injured. Approximately 160 homes were destroyed or badly damaged.

Mayo Clinic doctors removed Governor Janklow's spleen and an inflamed portion of his pancreas during exploratory surgery for pancreatic cancer. No cancer was found.

President Clinton toured the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation promising federal projects as part of an effort to combat poverty.

Unrest over the deaths of two American Indian men near Whiteclay, Nebraska, coupled with continuing complaints about alcohol sold to people from the nearby Pine Ridge Reservation, resulted in several marches on Whiteclay during the summer.

The state education department announced early in the year that South Dakota ninth-graders who took a standardized writing test scored far below the national average and fifth grade students weren't quite up to par. Teachers and administrators held meetings and conferences to find ways to improve writing. Test scores from a later test in October were up dramatically.

2000. Despite months of preparations for possible Y2K problems, New Year's Day turned out to be so routine that South Dakota's emergency operations center closed six hours early Saturday. The state Division of Emergency Management wound down its operations at noon CT, after receiving no reports of any Y2K-related interruptions in public services. The state Bureau of Information and Telecommunications found no significant problems in state government's massive computer and technology systems.

One of Governor Janklow's top priorities is to see that every baby born in South Dakota has the opportunity for a good start in life. His expectations for that good start include initiatives on infant brain development, comprehensive early childhood development that includes physical, intellectual, emotional and social development, parent training, and health care. Bright Start is the Governor's new comprehensive early childhood initiative and it is composed of the following

components: Home Visitation, Newborn Hearing Screenings, Early Intervention Screenings, Immunizations, Web Site, Parent/Infant Welcome Box, Responsive Parenting Seminars. A Welcome Box is sent to every newborn infant in South Dakota beginning in January 2000. The items in the box are intended to assist parents as they help their babies get a good, healthy start in life.

The South Dakota House of Representatives ended a two-day special session by agreeing to sell the state-owned cement plant and recommending a trust fund to protect most of the \$252.3 million that GCC of Chihuahua, Mexico, has offered to pay. The company, which incorporated in South Dakota as GCC Dacotah, Inc., has plants, concrete operations or distribution terminals in Texas, New Mexico, Mexico and Colorado. Homestake Mining Company announced the closing of its 124-year gold mine in Lead. Homestake Mine is the world's oldest continuously operated gold mine and the oldest registered corporation in South Dakota. Homestake Mine has been recommended as the site for a world-class underground scientific laboratory.

Voters decided to keep video lottery for the third time since its inception.

The Jasper Fire burned 83,500 acres of the Black Hills National Forest. A Wyoming woman was arrested on suspicion of setting the fire.

Congress approved the \$273 million Lewis & Clark water project which would pipe treated Missouri River water to homes and towns in southeast South Dakota, northwest Iowa and southwest Minnesota.

The South Dakota High School Activities Association agreed to switch the girls' volleyball and basketball seasons, effective in the fall of 2002.

Dakota Fast File, a new way to file UCC filings using the Internet, was implemented in July.

A compact has been signed between the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe and the South Dakota Secretary of State. This compact allows the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe to partner with and use the Secretary of State's uniform commercial code filing system. This will make the "first in the nation" agreement for filing UCC's between a state and a reservation! This provides the ability for tribal members to have their collateral perfected, making loans more available from lending institutions and ultimately helping create business and industrial development on the reservation.

2001. A letter containing anthrax was mailed to the office of Senator Tom Daschle. Fifty-five staff members in the office building, including Daschle and the staff in his Capitol office, were tested for anthrax. Twenty-three had been exposed to the anthrax, but none were infected. The anthrax threat didn't end with Senator Daschle's office however. All told, anthrax-tainted letters killed five people and forced evacuation of federal buildings in Washington DC.

Senator Tom Daschle became Senate Majority Leader after Senator Jim Jeffords of Vermont defected the GOP to join the Independents, thus tilting control of the Senate to the Democrats.

Security was heightened in South Dakota after the September 11 terrorist attacks in New York City and the Pentagon. More than 3,000 people were killed as hijackers flew two planes into the World Trade Center and a third into the Pentagon. A fourth plane crashed south of Pittsburgh after passengers successfully blocked terrorist motives aiming the aircraft for another nationally significant target. Following the attacks, President Bush declared war on international terrorism and those that assist them. Working with Afghan allies, U.S. military forces removed Afghanistan's Taliban regime.

In excess of 25,000 people gathered at the State Capitol in Pierre to celebrate the dedication of the World War II Memorial on September 15th in Pierre. The memorial, positioned adjacent to Capitol Lake, consists of six bronze figures representing the branches of service in which South Dakotans served during WWII.

A committee of U.S. physicists said the Homestake gold mine was the best site for a new national underground science laboratory. It was estimated that the physics lab could generate \$2 billion in economic activity during its first 20 years and provide hundred of jobs in the northern Black Hills. In October, President Bush signed a bill to provide \$10 million in start-up money for the conversion of the mine. On December 19 Congress attempted to relieve the business owners of Homestake from potential liability for environmental damage in the future. Even so, at year-end the National Science Foundation, which would operate the lab for the state, had yet to agree to direct and pay for the project.

Governor Bill Janklow decided to close the State Training School at Plankinton by the end of the year. Janklow based the decision on there being fewer young people sent to the Department of Corrections and the need to find budget efficiencies because of the economic downturn's effects on government revenue.

U.S. Representative John Thune decided to run for the U.S. Senate.

President Bush visited South Dakota to rally support for his tax cut plan.

South Dakota became the last state to allow cameras in court rooms.

2002. The Associated Press voted Tim Johnson's narrow victory over John Thune in the U.S. Senate race as South Dakota's top story of the year. Johnson's narrow win was marked by a "scant 524 of 337,508" total votes cast on the November 5th general election. During the campaign season, President Bush made an unprecedented number of trips to South Dakota in support of John Thune's candidacy.

Republican Mike Rounds defeated well-funded primary opponents Mark Barnett and Steve Kirby during the June primary. As the underdog third contender, former State Senator Mike Rounds of Pierre ran a low-budget campaign, stayed away from the highly competitive top two candidates and was rewarded by Republican voters with the party's nomination in June. Rounds moved on to vic-

tory in the gubernatorial race defeating Democrat opponent Jim Abbott by a 57 to 42 percent margin during the November general election.

Governor Bill Janklow moved on to South Dakota's lone U.S. House seat after winning a 53.5% margin against rival Democrat Stephanie Herseth during the November 2002 election. Herseth, a young South Dakota native with state political ties, executed a campaign that nearly defeated one of the state's long-time political icons.

In response to one of the most severe droughts in state history, the Bush administration provided \$752 million in aid for South Dakota livestock farmers and other drought stricken states. As the drought continued in 2002, the battle to provide much more aid became a major issue in the U.S. Senate race.

Summer 2002 brought devastating forest fires in the Black Hills with two fires charring more than 23,000 acres during the summer. The Battle Creek Fire burned more than 13,000 acres, and the Grizzly Gulch Fire forced the evacuation of both Deadwood and parts of Lead. Politically, the forest fires directed public attention to U.S. Forest Service and the agency's forestry management policies and practices.

Federal Judge Charles Kornmann of Aberdeen ruled South Dakota's anti-corporate farming law (Amendment E) unconstitutional. Amendment E passed in 1998 by an initiated measure and declared that in order for a family farm to be incorporated, at least one family member must do substantial routine labor on the farm. This was found unconstitutional because it is in violation of the Federal Americans with Disabilities Act. Three weeks after Kornmann's ruling, voters defeated the amendment's replacement during the June 2002 primary election.

Governor Bill Janklow testified before the U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions on May 8, 2002, regarding the Hatch-Waxman Act and prescription drug patents. Janklow spoke on behalf of himself and 10 other governors who are members of Business For Affordable Medicine (BAM), a coalition of companies, governors and labor leaders who seek ways to reduce prescription drug costs. Janklow addressed the ability of pharmaceutical manufacturers to delay competition from lower-cost generic alternatives as patents expire, and the impact to state Medicaid programs.

South Dakota received nearly \$18 million thanks to a 1998 settlement between 44 states and the tobacco industry. As determined by South Dakota law, the money from the settlement was placed in a constitutional trust fund for educational enhancement.

Facing increasing fiscal pressure, the 2002 Legislature tapped reserve funds to balance state spending.

2003. After months of diplomatic efforts and military buildup, on March 19 President Bush announced the start of the war against Saddam Hussein's Iraq regime with Operation Iraqi Freedom. United States and British forces quickly seized large amounts of territory and overtook much of Baghdad by April 7. Saddam Hussein was captured on December 13.

Space shuttle Columbia disintegrated over Texas 16 minutes short of touchdown on February 1. After an investigation the cause was found to be a chunk of foam insulation that broke off the fuel tank and pierced the left wing on launch day.

In May, Congress approved tax cuts promoted by President Bush total \$330 billion through 2013. The third largest tax cut in history.

June 24th became known as "Tornado Tuesday" after 67 twisters ripped through South Dakota setting a state record. One tornado touched down near Manchester almost wiping the town off the map.

Computer maker Gateway laid off more than 2500 workers in plants in Sioux Falls and North Sioux City. Additionally, in September financially troubled Northwestern Corporation filed for Chapter 11 Bankruptcy.

On August 16 U.S. Representative William Janklow collided with a Minnesota motorcycle rider, Randy Scott near Trent, South Dakota. Janklow was convicted of second-degree manslaughter in December.

Mosquitoes caused a stir as South Dakota was hit hard with West Nile Virus cases. On August 22nd, South Dakota had its first death from the Virus when 89 year old Virgil Christianson from Wakonda died in Yankton after a battle with the virus. Thirteen other South Dakotans also died in 2003 from West Nile Virus. There were a total of 1,039 human cases in the state.

2004. One person died, and 50 others contracted West Nile virus. Mosquito control efforts at the local level were credited with helping keep disease numbers down in 2004.

This year marked the fifth year of drought in South Dakota. For the first time since 1988, the governor activated the state Drought Task Force in South Dakota to coordinate state and federal efforts in preparation for severe drought.

Performers from across South Dakota took the stage to honor the state's veterans and their families at the Korean War Memorial Dedication Ceremony Saturday, Sept. 18, in Pierre. Tens of thousands of visitors gathered at the State's Capitol Complex for the dedication ceremony and celebratory events.

Legislation to ban abortions without exception fell one vote short of passing in the state Legislature. Supporters promoted the legislation as the ticket to a re-hearing of Roe V. Wade by the U.S. Supreme Court.

John Thune topped the national political charts with his defeat of Senate Minority Leader Tom Daschle on November 2. The victory marked the first time in 52 years where a Senate Leader was ousted from office. Seventy-nine percent of registered voters turned out for the general election. Thune gained support in traditional Democrat counties and increased his margins in many Republican counties.

Stephanie Herseth became the first woman to represent South Dakota in the U.S. House after narrowly defeating Republican Larry Diedrich in a special election on June 1. She filled the seat left vacant when William Janklow resigned. Herseth's support continued into the November 2 general election where she again defeated Diedrich in the race for a full two-year term.

Voters rejected the proposed repeal of the state's sales tax on food. Proposed and marketed by the Democrat Party as a way to provide financial relief for the poor, the measure revealed the people's support for the state's broad-based sales tax system.